

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 11, and ending on page 10, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

With the foregoing and other objects in view there is provided, in accordance with the invention, a data network for transmitting data between a first data processing device and a second data processing device through cabling actually intended for other purposes. The data network contains a network coupling device having functional components operating on a physical layer of an open system interconnect (OSI) reference model. The function components include a first data access device, to be coupled to the cabling of the first data processing device, for extracting data packets from the cabling and for feeding the data packets into the cabling, while avoiding adverse effects on an actual intended purpose of the cabling of the first data processing device; and a second data access device, to be coupled to a transmission medium of the second data processing device, for extracting the data packets from the second data processing device and for feeding the data packets into the second data processing device. A data transmission device is provided for operating on a data link layer of the OSI reference model and is coupled to the first data access device and to the

second data access device. The data transmission device provides an unchanged transmission of extracted data packets between the first data access device and the second data access device without evaluating addressing information concerning the data link layer contained in the data packets.